



Michigan Crop Weather

Cool & Dry

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 12, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0 inches in the west central, south west, south central and south east Lower Peninsula to 0.08 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the west central and central Lower Peninsula to 7 degrees below normal in the north east Lower Peninsula. Dry weather this week allowed crops and field activities to advance. Lack of rain was beginning to show stress on corn and soybeans. Rain was also needed for improving hay crops. One grower reported, “It was a very good week for farm activities with moderate temperatures, sunny skies, and little wind. We could use some more moisture; corn is showing signs of stress on lighter ground.”

Field Crops

Crop progress remained behind normal. The majority of **wheat** turned yellow. Harvest has slowly begun in the southeast. **Oats** were looking good and were turning. **Rye**, in the southeast, was ready to be cut. **Corn** and **soybeans** were behind schedule. Both were showing signs of stress from of lack of moisture; however, the color was better. Soybeans, in the west central, began blossoming. **Alfalfa** harvest continued. There were several reports that the second cutting would be better. Alfalfa enjoyed the cooler temperatures. **Sugarbeets** were progressing with no serious problems but had spotty stands in some fields. A reporter in the Thumb region stated, “Large acreage of **dry beans** was being replanted for the third time.” In fields that were not replanted, the crop was progressing and stands looked well.

Fruit

Apples were 30 to 32 mm in the northwest, 1.75 inches in the southeast, and 2 inches in diameter in the southwest, where fire blight symptoms were common. **Apricot** harvest was underway in the southwest. **Blueberries** were 14 mm in the southeast; hand picking of early varieties continued in the southwest where fruit size and quality were excellent. **Peaches** were 2 inches in diameter; bacterial leaf spot infections were found. **Pears** were 23 mm in the northwest, 1.4 inches in diameter in the southeast. **Plums** ranged from 23 mm in the northwest to 1 inch in diameter in southern Michigan. **Raspberry** harvest was underway. **Strawberry** harvest neared completion in the northwest and renovation continued in the southwest. **Sweet cherries** were 21 mm in the northwest. **Tart cherries** were coloring in the northwest, as harvest was underway in the southwest; growers were concerned with quality and volume due to damage from storms experienced a few weeks ago. **Grapes** were at berry touch in the southwest and late bloom in the northwest.

Vegetables

Vegetable crops continued their development this week as temperatures remained close to normal. **Celery** harvest picked up this week, but growers are reporting lower than normal production for this time of year. Planting of celery was finished for most producers. In the southeast, some early **sweet corn** was harvested. Producers across the State continued to monitor for European corn borer and corn earworm. **Cabbage** harvest continued, with growers reporting good yields and quality. **Peppers** and **tomatoes** showed good progress this week, but growers report that development continued to be a week to ten days behind normal for this time of the year. In the southwest, early planted **snap beans** were reported to be in good condition. Growers monitored snap bean fields for potato leafhopper activity. Across the State, **summer squash** and **zucchini** harvest continued. **Cucumbers** continued to be harvested as growers monitored fields for cucumber beetles and downy mildew.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/12/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	10	30	56	4
Subsoil	7	22	64	7

Crop condition for week ending 07/12/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	6	23	55	14
Corn	2	8	27	49	14
Dry beans	3	18	43	29	7
Oats	1	3	25	60	11
Pasture	2	7	29	49	13
Soybeans	2	8	30	49	11
Winter Wheat	1	4	24	55	16

Crop progress for week ending 07/12/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	38	26	42	43
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	97	82	94	96
All hay, second cutting	28	13	27	33
Blueberries, harvested	23	8	14	9
Corn, silked	1	0	2	11
Dry beans, blooming	1	0	1	6
Oats, headed	87	85	94	95
Oats, turning yellow	25	15	18	34
Soybeans, blooming	16	6	30	26
Strawberries, harvested	88	76	84	93
Tart cherries, harvested	13	3	10	34
Winter wheat, turning yellow	87	71	98	98
Winter wheat, harvested	1	0	3	16

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/12/09 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	82	39		797	795		0.03	0.29	1.36	7.68		
Marquette	82	41		679	736		0.03	0.29	1.36	7.69		
Stephenson	87	42		913	981		0.04	0.12	0.27	8.92		
Western UP	87	35	-5	771	796	860	0.03	0.27	1.42	7.96	10.40	3.42
Cornell	87	43		851	862		0.02	0.22	0.30	6.84		
Sault St Marie	80	47		677	730		0.09	0.65	1.73	7.63		
Eastern UP	87	43	-3	690	740	700	0.16	1.06	1.46	8.80	9.76	3.19
Beulah	84	48		955	1,057		0.16	1.14	1.86	9.78		
Lake City	80	41		921	1,027		0.08	0.88	1.41	11.04		
Old Mission	85	48		861	995		0.36	1.45	1.86	6.56		
Pellston	84	40		823	974		0.09	0.56	1.18	5.44		
Northwest	85	40	-4	859	974	992	0.20	0.91	1.40	7.51	9.43	2.99
Alpena	83	48		863	1,005		0.08	0.97	1.71	9.33		
Houghton Lake	80	39		912	1,068		0.15	0.38	0.77	9.76		
Rogers City	85	49		870	958		0.78	1.22	1.76	9.54		
Northeast	85	39	-5	884	1,025	952	0.24	0.70	1.27	9.34	9.19	3.18
Fremont	82	46		1,062	1,145		0.46	0.62	1.53	9.32		
Hart	81	44		991	1,060		0.13	0.64	1.77	12.28		
Muskegon	83	49		1,130	1,110		0.22	0.52	2.21	9.66		
West Central	83	43	-4	1,046	1,093	1,102	0.22	0.72	1.71	10.76	9.63	2.54
Alma	81	50		1,069	1,217		0.20	0.51	2.12	13.56		
Big Rapids	80	46		1,063	1,182		0.34	0.65	2.12	10.26		
Central	81	46	-4	1,061	1,188	1,162	0.32	0.62	2.04	11.00	10.28	2.97
Bad Axe	81	49		947	1,163		0.03	0.62	2.38	10.69		
Pigeon	82	47		948	1,132		0.11	0.86	3.02	10.97		
Saginaw	81	49		1,083	1,270		0.32	1.32	3.53	12.09		
Standish	82	47		971	1,107		0.04	0.60	2.02	10.30		
East Central	82	47	-5	959	1,182	1,143	0.14	0.90	3.03	11.55	9.38	2.92
Fennville	82	48		1,121	1,140		0.54	0.62	4.40	13.10		
Grand Rapids	81	50		1,246	1,335		1.35	1.52	6.61	15.60		
Holland	85	52		1,308	1,323		0.44	0.58	8.86	20.04		
South Bend, IN	84	48		1,364	1,405		0.47	0.56	3.29	12.72		
Watervliet	82	48		1,219	1,267		0.33	0.43	3.36	11.68		
Southwest	85	43	-4	1,235	1,286	1,250	0.38	0.49	3.92	12.85	11.11	3.09
Belding	80	43		1,069	1,188		0.16	0.36	2.23	10.86		
Coldwater	85	48		1,280	1,275		0.18	0.33	2.85	13.03		
Lansing	82	48		1,150	1,308		0.40	0.70	4.02	15.55		
South Central	85	43	-5	1,155	1,269	1,245	0.49	0.69	3.88	13.41	10.86	3.22
Detroit	86	55		1,313	1,433		1.04	1.20	4.97	14.30		
Flint	82	47		1,133	1,355		0.51	1.04	5.55	15.35		
Romeo	83	51		1,116	1,255		0.20	0.70	5.86	10.40		
Tipton	85	51		1,214	1,295		0.48	0.58	2.99	12.40		
Toledo, OH	84	52		1,350	1,409		0.26	0.33	3.33	11.78		
Southeast	87	46	-4	1,202	1,330	1,215	0.30	0.55	3.61	11.85	10.68	3.11

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.